GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:82
ANSWERED ON:04.03.2008
RECOGNITION TO DEEMED UNIVERSITIES
Chavda Shri Harisinh Pratapsinh;Singh Shri Chandra Bhushan

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether several deemed Universities are functioning in the country;

(b) if so, the goals and objectives for which such Universities are set up;

(c) whether many deemed Universities have not been granted recognition as per the norms laid down in the rules and the Government has received complaints in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon?

Answer

MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH)

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.82 FOR 4th MARCH, 2008 ASKED BY SHRI CHANDRA- BHUSHAN SINGH AND SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA, M.Ps., REGARDING `RECOGNITION TO DEEMED UNIVERSITIES`

(a): Yes, Sir. There are 101 `Deemed-to-be-Universities` in the country as of now.

(b): The Central Government is empowered by Section 3 of the University Grants Commission (UGC) Act, 1956 to declare an institution of higher education as `Deemed-to-be-University1, on the advice of the UGC. The intention behind the award of the status of `Deemed-to-be-University` to an institution which is doing work of a high standard comparable to a university, is to empower it to further contribute to the cause of higher education which would in turn enrich the university system. The objectives of deemed-to-be-universities are mainly:-

(i) to provide for instruction and training in such branches of learning as it may deem fit;

(ii) to conduct and encourage research and for the advancement of and dissemination of knowledge;

(iii) to undertake extra mural studies, extension programmes and field outreach activities to contribute to the development of society;

(iv) to do all such other acts and things as may be necessary or desirable to further the objectives of the institute,

(c) & (d): The UGC has laid down detailed guidelines for consideration of proposals for declaring an institution as `Deemed-to-be-University`. The proposals received for conferment of `Deemed-to-be-University1 status under Section 3 of the UGC Act, 1956 are examined by the UGC as per the provisions of these guidelines. A committee of eminent experts visits the applicant institution and gives its report, which is considered by the Commission The UGC then makes appropriate recommendations to the Government. The report of the UGC is examined by the Government and if the applicant institution is found to be fit enough to be awarded the Deemed-to-be-University` status, it is so notified by the Government.

A writ petition (Public Interest Litigation) has been filed by one Shri Viplav Sharma in the Hon`bie Supreme Court of India alleging inter alia that a number of professional colleges which are not known for academic excellence, have been granted the status of Deemed-to-be-University` in the last few years. The matter is sub-judice.